



September 26, 2023

Dear Leadership Council Representative,

Thank you to all 25 of you who were able to join us on September 13, 2023 to explore the topic, “Professionalizing our Field Further: Beginning a Conversation about Assessing Student Learning and Faculty Teaching.” We began with a lovely somatic arrival piece facilitated by Paul Beaumont from the Institute for Integrative Bodywork and Movement Therapy (IBMT). Then, new representatives were invited to introduce themselves to the group. We heard from Deborah Kinghorn (Lessac Kinesensic Training), Aki Omori (BMCA), Caitlin Cofflin (Laban/Bartenieff Somatic Studies International), Aline Newton (Rolf Movement), Ryan Moschill (Association for Hanna Somatic Education) as well as the directors of new Approved Training Programs, Aceneth Garcia (Elemental Movement) and Prue Jeffries (Naio). Welcome again to our new ATP members and representatives!

Next, our Board of Directors President, Maria Luisa de Leon Zuloaga shared the results of the Annual Questionnaire for the Approved Training Programs regarding assessment. Please see the attached PDF for her slides. After her presentation, participants entered breakout rooms to discuss these questions:

- How important is assessment for your training program?
- How do you assess the learning of your training program’s students?
- How do you assess your own teaching or educating of your students? In other words, how do you know that your teaching is landing or that your students are getting what you are offering?

Participants then returned to the main gallery and shared the main points from their small group discussions. We ended with these announcements:

- Incorporating input provided by the Leadership Council over the past two meetings, we reached a decision to add language to the second set of bullet points in our [Scope of Practice](#). The phrase “enhance the awareness of biological, psychological, social, and ecological aspects of the human experience through movement” now appears at the bottom of that list.
- The Professional Development Center (PDC) launched on September 7! In the coming weeks, Approved Training Programs will receive an invitation to offer a webinar on their

unique approach to somatic movement education and therapy through this online learning platform. Stay tuned for details!

- Approved Training Programs are also invited to create 250-hour training programs. This new program category corresponds to a new membership category – Associate Somatic Movement Professional (ASMP). This new credential requiring 250 hours of training is designed for people who have a primary professional identify in another field (e.g., psychotherapist, physiotherapist) but are significantly influenced by the somatic movement training they have completed.

The final Leadership Council meeting of the year will be held on **Monday, December 11, 2023 from 10:00 – 11:30 am Eastern U.S. time**. We look forward to gathering again then.

Warm regards,

ISMETA Leadership Council Team
And the entire Board of Directors